

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-2 (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) ~~The improvement of claim 2, wherein the floor mats have~~
In a floor mat system having at least two floor mats removably connected to the
floor with clips that allow the floor mats to be lifted for cleaning under the mats; each
floor mat having edges and corners; each floor mat including a plurality of spaced
upper ribs disposed across a plurality of spaced lower ribs to define a plurality of
flow-through openings that allow debris and water to flow through the floor mat;
each floor mat being flexible; the improvement comprising:

the floor mats being disposed in an abutting relationship and having a
common outer perimeter;

each floor mat being connected to the floor with four clips positioned adjacent
the corners of the floor mat; the clips engaging the lower ribs of the flexible flow-
through floor mat to releasably connect the floor mat to the floor;

the system being free of rigid frame members disposed intermediate the floor
mats; and

the system further including an outer frame assembly surrounding the
common outer perimeter of the floor mats.

4. (Previously presented) In a floor mat system having at least two floor mats connected to the floor with a clip;
 - each floor mat having edges and corners;
 - each floor mat having a plurality of first parallel ribs and a plurality of second parallel ribs;
 - each of the second ribs being perpendicular to the first ribs;
 - the second ribs adapted to engage the floor and support the floor mat on the floor;
 - each of the floor mats further including a plurality of knobs connected to the first ribs;
 - the knobs being adapted to engage the floor to support the floor mat;
 - the clip defining at least one hole that receives one of the knobs;
 - the improvement comprising:
 - the floor mats being disposed in an abutting relationship; and
 - each floor mat being connected to the floor with at least one clip.
5. (Previously presented) The improvement of claim 4, wherein the system is free of rigid frame members disposed intermediate the floor mats.
6. (Previously presented) The improvement of claim 4, wherein the floor mats have a common outer perimeter; the system further including an outer frame assembly surrounding the common outer perimeter of the floor mats.
7. (Previously presented) The improvement of claim 4, wherein the clip is disposed at the center of each floor mat.
8. (Previously presented) The improvement of claim 4, wherein a clip is disposed at each corner of each floor mat.

9. (Previously presented) In a floor mat system having at least two floor mats connected to the floor with clips that releasably engage the floor mats such that the floor mats may be lifted from the floor simply by lifting upwardly on the floor mat and pulling it off of the clip;

each floor mat having edges and corners;

each floor mat having a plurality of first parallel ribs and a plurality of second parallel ribs;

each of the second ribs being perpendicular to the first ribs;

the second ribs adapted to engage the floor and support the floor mat on the floor;

each of the floor mats further including a plurality of knobs connected to the first ribs;

the knobs being adapted to engage the floor to support the floor mat;

each clip defining at least two holes; each of the holes receiving a knob when the floor mat is connected to the floor with the clip;

the improvement comprising:

the floor mats being disposed in an abutting relationship; and

each floor mat being connected to the floor with at least four clips disposed at the corners of the floor mat.

10. (Previously presented) The improvement of claim 9, wherein the system is free of rigid frame members disposed intermediate the floor mats.

11. (Previously presented) The improvement of claim 9, wherein the floor mats have a common outer perimeter; the system further including an outer frame assembly surrounding the common outer perimeter of the floor mats.

Claims 12-13 (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The improvement of claim 4, wherein the clip releasably engages the floor mat in a manner that allows the floor mat to be lifted from the floor simply by lifting upwardly on the floor mat and pulling it off the clip.

15. (Previously presented) The improvement of claim 6, wherein the floor mats are free of connections with the outer frame.

Claims 16-21 (Canceled)

22. (New) The improvement of claim 3, wherein the clips releasably engage the floor mats in a manner that allows the floor mats to be lifted from the floor simply by lifting upwardly on the floor mats and pulling them off the clips.

23. (New) The improvement of claim 3, wherein the floor mats are free of connections with the outer frame.